

In the Specification

Please replace the paragraph at page 18, lines 1 through 4 with the following paragraph:

91 In addition, novel photoremovable protecting groups such as 5'-O-pyrenylmethyloxy carbonyl (PYMOC) and methylnitropiperonyloxycarbonyl (MeNPOC) have been described in U.S. Patent Application Ser. No. 08/630,148, filed April 10, 1996, the contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

[Please replace the paragraph at page 18, lines 21 through 24 with the following paragraph:]

92 In addition to the above-described references, photocleavable protecting groups and methods of using such photocleavable protecting groups for polymer synthesis have been described in U.S. Patent Application Ser. Nos. 08/630,148 (filed April 10, 1996) and 08/812,005 (filed March 5, 1997) which are incorporated by reference herein.

Amendments to the specification are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (page i).

In the Claims

Please amend Claims 1-5 and 14-17. Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (pages i - iv).

- 93 1. (Amended) A method of preparing a nucleic acid array on a support comprising preparing a nucleic acid array on a support, wherein each nucleic acid occupies a separate known region of the support, said method comprising contacting said support with protected nucleoside phosphoramidite monomers having less than about 1 mole % of a phosphoramidite contaminant, as measured by ¹H NMR spectrometry, selected from the group consisting of (MeO)(NCCH₂CH₂O)PN(iPr)₂, (MeO)P(N(iPr)₂)₂, (MeO)₂PN(iPr)₂, and (NCCH₂CH₂O)₂PN(iPr)₂.